

Amendments to the Specification:

Paragraph [0005], line 2: Please insert the word "as" between "such" and "sleeping".

Please replace paragraph [0008] with the following amended paragraph:

[0008] Previous attempts to address the neck-twist stress associated with prone sleep have been directed at requiring the face of the sleeper to be directed toward the sleeping surface. See, for example, Priester III et al., U.S. Patent 6,047,420 issued April 11, 2000, which discloses a three-part array, one of which accepts the forehead of the prone sleeper and supports it sufficiently far from the sleep surface that that there remains a space between the sleeper's face and that surface, in general the top side of a mattress. There are two other components to the array of Priester III et al., consisting of supports to be place on each side of the sleeper to prevent him or her from rolling over. This latter feature follows because the device of Priester III et al. is directed at persons who *need*, for one reason or another to sleep in a prone position even though that might not be their choice. Another approach to providing a "special arrangement" to allow the prone sleeper's face to be directed at the mattress is taught by Cuddy, U.S. Patent 6,412,127 B1 issued July 2, 2002. The device of Cuddy comprises in part a "doughnut" pillow akin to what is often used by persons lying prone while receiving a massage. Other attempts to configure the sleeping body for comfort or safety include the system taught by Burpo, U.S. Patent 3,811,140, issued May 21, 1974, and the maternal positioning system of Ferguson, U.S. Patent 6,047,419, Issued April 11, 2000. Neither of these systems is appropriate for addressing the problem presently under discussion. For example, the system of Burpo is directed at rigidly aligning the body of a supine patient and therefore has no need to establish the relative orientation of the head and torso. Furthermore, its structure -- consisting of two similar interconnected wedges, one running along each side of the patient's body, sloping down toward the body -- is such that it *cannot* address the problem presently under discussion. On the other hand, the system of Ferguson is directed toward

supporting a pregnant woman lying on her side. It has a single wedge-shaped body piece on which the mid-section of the woman's midsection is to be supported, and a contoured, inclined pillow section designed to accept the cheek of the woman tilted slightly upward. The pillow section is removably attachable to the body piece, the attachment interface consisting of two matching triangular surfaces. Even if the separate components of the Ferguson system are used in a configuration not taught by Ferguson, they will not serve the purpose being address by the present invention. Although it is possible and even comfortable to rest one's cheek on the Ferguson pillow piece if one is lying on one's side, this is not the case if one is lying on one's stomach.

Please replace paragraph [0012] with the following amended paragraph:

[0012] The Head Piece supports the sleeper's head in such a way that the angle through which the head must turn with respect to the mattress is limited by the wedge angle of the Head Piece. For example, if the wedge angle of the Head Piece is 45 degrees, the angle through which the head must be turned as the sleeper lies prone on the mattress is approximately 45 degrees. If the wedge angle is 30 degrees, then the angle [[of]] through which the head [[with respect to the mattress]] must be turned will be approximately 60 degrees, and so on. More generally, the angle through which the head must turn [[with respect to the mattress]] for prone sleep to occur when the present invention is in use will be approximately equal to the complement of the wedge angle of the Head Piece.

Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following amended paragraph:

[0013] It is not sufficient, in terms of preventing pathology-inducing head-turn angles, simply to define the angle of the head with respect to the sleep surface, since with the head constrained in the manner just described, the head-turn angle will still be increased, possibly to an injurious degree, if the sleeper's torso attempts to turn over during the sleep period in the

direction that increases the head-turn angle. Consequently, in addition to holding the head at a fixed, benign angle with respect to the mattress, the present invention also constrains the sleeper's torso from turning in a direction injurious to the neck. There are a number of ways to achieve this constraint. In the Preferred Embodiment of the invention, a second wedged element is used, one that extends along the length of the torso on one side, with the thickness of this element increasing in the opposite transverse direction from that in which the Head Piece increases in thickness when the two pieces are deployed properly on the sleeping surface. Each of the pieces can be characterized as having a longitudinal direction and a transverse direction. Indeed, each can be characterized as a right cylinder, having a longitudinal axis and a wedge-shaped cross-section perpendicular its longitudinal axis. They can therefore be referred to as cylinders.

In Paragraph [0019], line 6, please replace "500" with "100".

In Paragraph [0021], line 7, please replace "3" with "4".

In Paragraph [0023], line 5, please replace "3" with "4".

In Paragraph [0023], line 6, please replace "the sleep lays" with "the sleeper lays".

In Paragraph [0024], line 3, please replace "1000 by" with "1000 and".

In Paragraph [0024], line 4, please replace "variation is" with "variation in".

In Paragraph [0024], line 9, please replace "In" with "in".